



AGENDA  
 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
 January 26, 2021  
 7 PM PST  
 Zoom: <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/97123303841>

**I. Call to Order**

Riley

- Emily calls the meeting to order at 7:03pm

**A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet**

- Signed via Google Docs

**II. Approval of Agenda\***

Luong

- Add Discussion Item for USAC Pandemic Relief Fund
- Strike BAG
- Strike EVP officer report
- Strike Capital Contingency
- Strike Contingency Guidelines
- Strike TGMF
- Strike ASRF
- Bakur motions to add A Resolution Condemning the Military Coup in Myanmar and in Support of Burmese Students, Justin seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 the motion passes, resolution is added to the agenda
- Promise motions to approve the agenda as amended, Noe seconds
- By motion of 11-0-0 the motion passes, agenda is approved as amended
- Emily motions to add Laura’s appointment to the agenda, Promise seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 the motion passes, Laura’s appointment is added to the agenda after public comment

**III. Approval of the minutes\***

Luong

1/26/2021

- Promise motions to approve 1/26/2021 minutes, Noe seconds
- By motion of 9-0-1 the motion passes, minutes are approved

**IV. Public Comment**

Riley

Alfred: Hi council, I’ve come here to you all today not as the Election Board chair but as the President of the Burmese Student Association at UCLA to let council know of the current political situation in Myanmar. As of now, national elections were held affirming the ruling civilian party NLD as the legitimate winners of the election, but the the military has disputed the outcomes of the election leading to a situation in which civilian leaders are captured, the military government shutting down or severely disrupting telecommunications, internet, and electricity freezing financial transactions going on from banks. There have been a lot of reports that the military government has also announced a curfew on state TV saying that people outside of their homes after 8pm and threatening consequences for those who have disobeyed the curfew order. This has undeniably introduced a whole host of problems both tangible and intangible for Burmese students affected by the crisis and that has significantly impeded their abilities to continue studying at UCLA. These students have reached out to the Burmese Student Association to express their concerns, and I want to ask USAC to fully empathize, support, and stand in solidarity behind the concerns expressed by the Burmese students throughout these times. After my public comment, the rest of the Burmese Student Association will go in depth about these concerns. Thank you so much for listening.

Swan: Hi my name is Swan, I am the External Vice President of the Burmese Student Association. I want to thank USAC and everyone here today for hearing us out. I’m just going to talk about one main student concern and then there will be other people talking about their own concerns as well. So one thing relating to academics is that because of the uncertainty of when students

will have access to the internet and electricity, we are concerned that these international students in Myanmar won't be able to keep up with their studies and assignments. So far connection is down in two major cities, Naypyitaw, the capital and Mandalay. Some areas it's fine but it's very sporadic, so even in Yangon which is the most popular city, where is where most of our friends and fellow peers live, there's spotty connection there. For example, I cannot contact my sister at this time because the internet in that street is down. We have raised these concerns for students' academics because they will not be able to access remote learning as they were able to before. Thank you all for listening.

Garmani: Hi, my name is Garmani. As of right now, banks in Myanmar have been closed off and people are unable to retract funds from their accounts because banks are concerned about people taking out money, a lot at one time. It's really difficult for Burmese students who are in the United States for their parents to support them financially as they aren't able to get their money out of their banks. This is also that I have since my parents, I'm dependent on my parents monetarily while I'm in the United States and I'm currently using my money carefully because I have no funds that can support me throughout the week if I do not get money from my parents. Other students will probably have the same problem since banks are closed for their parents as well.

Kyi: Hello council, my name is Kyi and I'm the current Finance Director of BURSA, and a third year biology student here at UCLA. On the afternoon of January 31st, I received multiple messages from our BURSA group chat regarding articles and messages of fear regarding what's happening with Burma, reminding each other to not post anything as it's not worth it. Worth what exactly? Detainment, as the Burmese government can use what you post against you. Our members in Burma have to live with this fear of watching what they say while monitoring the state of their country with soldiers outside their window. The mental distress coming from a constant state of surveillance is something you, nor I can even begin to fathom. On top of that we have members of our family who are detained or who are unreachable. I don't think I need to elaborate on the devastation this causes on our members. These students don't have time to be students as they're busy being survivors, caretakers, and providers for their own family amidst the pandemic at that. We implore the student government to give us your support and stand in solidarity with Burmese students. Help us fight for understanding and adequate resources during this crucial time. Thank you.

Aye Pyae: Hi everyone, my name is Aye Pyae and I am the Director of Marketing of BURSA. We have been in touch with our member's direct request for support from USAC and we wanted to communicate them to you. First, we ask for USAC to work with the UCLA administration and support Burmese students in their efforts to ask their professors for leniency regarding midterms, assignments, and class attendance. As Swan mentioned earlier, internet connection and lines of communication have been extremely unstable and many students currently in Myanmar face uncertainty regarding this. We ask USAC to urge professors and faculty for leniency when it comes to missed exams, assignments, or inability to attend classes. At times, professors have not always offered the empathy and understanding that students need and we need USAC's support to make sure this is possible. Second, we ask USAC to work with the UCLA administration to provide students with financial resources regarding tuition payments. Banks have halted all finances for the considerable future and this means that international students, many of whom rely on bank wire transfers from Myanmar to pay for tuition, may be facing difficulty getting access to money. We ask that USAC ask the financial services department to be considerate in this regard and see if any financial aid or relief can be given for students affected by this crisis. Lastly, we ask for resources for mental support for students during this challenging and uncertain time. A lot of the events that have taken place in recent days bring back painful memories from the past, and students are struggling to cope with all of this. We ask that you stand in solidarity behind the UCLA Burmese community going through these difficult times in Myanmar and in the United States as well. We also hope that everyone can offer their empathy for all Burmese Bruins affected by this political situation. Thank you.

Jason: Hi everyone, my name is Jason, my pronouns are he/him/his, I am the current President of the Vietnamese Student Union at UCLA as well as the Executive Director for the Southeast Asian Students for Organizing conference. I'm here today to give public comment in solidarity with the Burmese Student Association. First, I'd like to thank all the student leaders who came out today from BURSA to give public comment and support this resolution. I think they said everything and I just want to echo and voice my support for this resolution that they've spoken to, especially in this time as a military coup is taking place in Myanmar. I think it's very important for us to stand with our Burmese students at UCLA to be in support and I think as was shared earlier, really go along with this statement to take actionable steps. So I call on the council to be in support of this resolution and thank you for this chance to speak.

Kristi: Hello, my name is Kristi, pronouns she/her/hers and I'm a fourth year currently serving as the External Vice President of the Vietnamese Student Union and the Community Advocacy Coordinator of the Asian Pacific Coalition. I'm here to also voice my support for the resolution condemning the military coup in Myanmar and also in support of Burmese students along with all

the student leaders putting this together. As students in this pandemic, we're already facing so much anxiety and stress and I can't imagine what Burmese students are currently going through, especially those who are in Myanmar, those who have family there right now. I just ask that USAC also affirm their support for Burmese students, condemn this military coup, and also advocate for support and accommodation for these students. Thank you.

Laura: Good evening council, I'm the undergraduate representative for the Covid Task Force Research working group. I'm here to give an update of the last two weeks. As of one Monday ago, the official number of cases in the research community went up by eleven, so now it is at 94 cases. With regards to vaccinations, it was recently announced that UC is planning on vaccinating all of its employees. As for undergraduate students, I'm not quite sure what that will entail, especially since I figure that undergrad students are probably low priority on the vaccination list. Other than that, I have heard some student concerns about vaccine mandates and public health and safety measures when we return hopefully in the fall. That is all, thank you.

Max: Hello council, my name is Max and I'm a third year Human Biology and Society major. I'm speaking today to express my opinion regarding UCLA's reopening in the fall of this year. At this point in the pandemic, we're lucky enough to have two safe and highly effective Covid vaccines approved for emergency use, with more likely coming soon. Additionally, UCLA's fall reopening plan is aided by the fact that [indiscernible] October, a point at which most current public health experts would likely agree that everyone would have had the opportunity to get vaccinated. Keeping this in mind, I think UCLA should be preparing today for comprehensive and transparent reopening plans that prioritizes both the safety of students and staff as well as the return to normalcy that many of us crave. In addition to testing and vaccination capacity, there are two critical areas that I think could use further attention and transparency by the university. The first is vaccine record keeping. UCLA's measles outbreak a couple years back highlighted some issues with accessing vaccination records as 125 out of 850 potentially exposed students did not have immediate proof of vaccination, seeming to highlight potential flaws in the Ashe Center system. A comprehensive plan to improve vaccine record keeping should be a priority as it is instrumental in our ability to safely return to campus. The second that I think could use more attention is the development of new technologies to aid UCLA's campus reopening. One example I could see this happening is through Bruin cards. For students who want to have a more normal college experience by having in person lectures, going to the library, or attending a shared social space, a Bruin card scanner could be placed on doors to only allow students to enter that have been vaccinated. By creating an ambitious reopening plan that takes advantage of resources at its disposal, UCLA can open in the fall in a safe and real way. I hope the members of this council push the university to fight for the reopening that students deserve, and to increase the level of transparency so that all stakeholders can see what is or what is not happening behind closed doors. Thank you for your time.

- Public comment concluded at 7:26pm

#### Laura Laubach to Gen Rep 1\*

Luong

- Zuelika motions to appoint Laura Laubach to Gen Rep 1, Promise seconds
- By motion of 11-0-0 the motion passes, Laura Laubach appointed to Gen Rep 1

#### Swearing In

Riley

- Laura Laubach is sworn in by Judicial Board Chief Justice Ellen Park at 7:29pm

### **V. Funding**

#### Capital Contingency\*

Minasyan

#### Contingency Programming\*

Minasyan

Total Requested: \$4,936.18

Total Recommended: \$4,318.45

11 non-USAC entities

- Breeze motions to approve \$4,318.45, Noe seconds
- By motion of 13-0-0 the motion passes, Contingency Programming allocation is approved

#### Contingency Guidelines#

Minasyan

SFS Allocations#

Wisner

Total Requested: \$1,531.00

Total Recommended: \$781.00

2 non-CSC groups

- No opposition, allocation passes by consent

SWC Programming Fund Allocations#

Read

Total Requested: \$1,377.90

Total Recommended: \$377.90

- No opposition, SWC Programming Fund allocations are approved

Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#

— Arasasingham

ASRF Allocations#

— Velazquez

AAC Travel Mini Grant Allocations#

— Velazquez

ARCF Allocations#

Ogunleye

Total Allocated \$13,390.17

- No opposition, ARCF Allocation are approved

TGIF

Cooper

- Total Allocated: \$868.35
- Going forward I will be linking TGIF allocations in the agenda

**VI. Special Presentations**

USAC Seat at the Table Initiative

Riley

USA Election Board Updates

Tun

Candidate Applications are OUT

- Good number of interest shown so far in applying for office
- So far technological issues, my.UCLA forms working well
  - Students get their own personalized link they can share it;
    - On their social media page
    - On their group chats
  - Protects privacy of student information
    - Students can submit signatures → but the petitioner cannot see the UID or names; only the number of responses so far
- Packets due March 12th @ 11:59pm

Events Coming Up

- Candidate Info Session on Wednesday Feb 3rd @ 7pm
  - Eligibility checks, signatures petition tips, resources for adobe, calendar overview, Spring quarter election events and campaign season overview
- USAC Offices Info Session #1 (Feb 11th) and #2 (Feb 18th)
  - Information about the roles of the different USAC offices
- IG takeovers/lives on ASUCLA. UCLA Rec, Dashew Center in between
- Q&A sessions planned

Outreach

- Sent out campus wide email to students
- Reaching out to student organizations
  - For:
    - Drop-ins
    - Forwarding
  - Method:
    - Cold calls

- Connections
- Reaching out to classes
  - For:
    - Drop-ins
    - Forwarding
- Need your connections to help spread the word about USAC elections
  - Any connections to student orgs (mother orgs, south campus orgs, north campus orgs) would be highly appreciated
  - Cold calls are not always the most effective: 5% response rate
- Help spread the message

#### Marketing Collaborations

- Student affairs entities
- Student organizations
- Hope for collaboration with USAC too if possible!

#### Planning extensively for Spring

- Marketing
  - A comprehensive marketing plan for candidates; any potential referenda and other ballot initiatives, giveaways, and voting resources
- Finance
  - Working on developing the expense accounts/funding sources forms
- Investigations
  - Infractions and Penalties Guidelines finalized
  - SMR almost ready
- External Relations
  - Candidate Orientation (asynchronous) Candidate Debates, Endorsement hearings

#### Upcoming action items to Council

- Social Media Regulations → Next week/Week 7
  - Will send SMR draft for viewing on the Friday before meeting
- Surplus request to fund Transition Director
- Releasing policy on Internal Elections → this week

## **VII. Appointments**

- None

## **VIII. Officer Reports**

### **A. President**

Riley

- We attended the UC Campus Safety Symposium today
- Met with CPO folks and AVC Mick Deluca, been having weekly meetings
- Preparing for the vaccine panel
- All campus email was sidelined but we will be bringing back the email
- Met with UC President Drake last week

### **B. Internal Vice President**

Luong

- Hosting vaccine webinar on Thursday
- Holding the True Bruin Raise Ceremony February 15th
- February 12 th- Student worker town hall
- Campus Safety Alliance held office hours
- Working on the off campus housing fair for sometime in February

### **C. External Vice President**

Arasasingham

D. General Representative 1

Loubach

- Platform - Bruin reintroduction program - to include a better sense of belonging for incoming and returning students
- 3 main objectives:
  - Create a reorientation program
  - Hosting town halls and events that foster a true bruin mentality
  - Designing roadmaps to campus written by students for student

E. General Representative 2 Written

Rodriguez

F. General Representative 3 Written

Wade

- Have had to push the Resource Guide back due to midterms for some of our staffs
- Currently working on a project outline and getting our staffs trained in conducting focus groups
- [Student Worker Resource Guide](#) should be re-released with new information in the next week
- We will be releasing a contingent valuation survey in the next week to understand ASUCLA purchasing practices

G. Academic Affairs Commissioner

Velazquez

- Starting an outreach program with inner city high schools in the Los Angeles area
- Kicking off Bruin book exchange Week 8
- Summer internships and job opportunities available
- Conducting an academic dishonesty workshop Week 7
- Holding office hours Friday from 2-3pm
- First mental health newsletter going out this week
- Organizing an event with Unica

H. Campus Events Commission Written

Naland

I. Community Service Commissioner

Wisner

- Releasing a letter for commencement

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Written

Ogunleye

- Hip hop appreciation month facilitated by HHC
- Tomorrow is the kickoff from 6-7pm
- Panel and film screening at february 10th at 5pm
- Workshop about how to create a hook for your song, Friday, February 12th from 6:30-8pm
- Black is Health and Wellness workshop February 17th from 7-8:30 pm
- Annual fashion show is February 19th at 7pm
- Hip Hop Explosion is February 26th
- Theme for this year is Black Is

K. Facilities Commissioner Written

Cooper

L. Financial Supports Commissioner Written

Garcia

M. Student Wellness Commissioner Written

Read

- Programming fund: This week, \$377.90 was allocated towards GlobeMed at UCLA for a virtual movie night as part of global health awareness week and the Ballet Company at UCLA for a ballet masterclass. Both are open to the public, as are all events funded through the SWC programming fund.
- Health Equity Video Series Week 6: Join Bruin Run/Walk for a conversation with the Painted Turtle focusing on chronic illness in children and how they tackle inequities in this area
- Check out Student Health Network's Equity Series for tips, resources, and prizes!
- Basic Needs Subsidy update: we are currently working through applications and sending out allocations starting this week

Upcoming Events

- NOW: Bruin Run/Walk 5k registration now open!! DM BRW for a free student registration until 2/7
- Wed Week 5 (2/3): Join EARTH for a game night social to destress from midterms
- Thurs Week 5 (2/4): Visit BruinNecessities instagram, first 25 respondents receive a free menstrual cup from Saalt!
- Mon Week 6 (2/8): Join Sexperts and Hillel for a Sex Week workshop

- Sexperts podcast out now! Listen this week to learn about the porn industry
- Continuing: Join EARTH every other Friday for a Cook With Me session with Swipe Out Hunger and Bruins Opposing Speciesism

#### N. Transfer Representative

Bravo

- Process for the Transfer Center Director has officially started, interviewing the candidates soon, hoping to have someone in place by Spring
- Meeting with UCOP so they can provide updates on cost of attendance survey, specifically for parenting students
- UC Basic Needs committee just launched the new dashboard, online now

#### O. International Student Representative

Madini

- Regarding the coup in Myanmar, I echo and support what have students have voiced in the public comment part, obviously we will be discussing this more when voting for the resolution
- Dean Blandizzi who I thank for being present here in this meeting, promised to facilitate several accommodations and support for Burmese students such as meeting with departments chairs
- An email was sent to Burmese students on file including possible resources such as ECRT, CAPS, and Dashew
- Duration of status will not proceed.
- The Committee on International Education responded to our last resolution in support of academic accommodation for international students and sent a letter to the chair of the academic senate in support of some of the points we raised with tangible solutions.
- We have concluded our surgery regarding the effect of the pandemic on international students and will have the results presented in the next council meeting in addition to several entities inside UCLA.
- We will be pulling two listening sessions, one for academic senate and deans, the other for student affairs, dates to be decided (TBD) probably week 7 & 8
- We are currently working on a comprehensive guide for international students so if have any suggestions of what we should be adding to that, let me know, I appreciate it.
- The UC ISA is seeking information on financial aid and scholarships available to international students and will also be running a survey for both staff and international students
- We are currently working on a comprehensive guide for international students so if have any suggestions of what we should be adding to that, let me know, I appreciate it.
- The UC ISA is seeking information on financial aid and scholarships available to international students and will also be running a survey for both staff and international students

#### Q. Administrative Representatives

Alexander, Champawat, Chacon, Geller, O'Connor,

Perez

Roy: The thing I wanted to be here to speak to directly was that we may not have been that clear and I put that on myself. This kind of issue only comes up every once in a great while and so it has to do with the question of removal from office of appointees and there's a little bit more nuance to some of the positions than is immediately apparent to council at first glance so that's kind of what I wanted to talk about. It has to do with appointments when they are to legally independent boards of directors versus campus committees that are advisory. Part of the thing I want to make clearer is there are a broad number of committees that are really important on campus that are advisory in their nature but are important in their interaction and the guidance and the information that the university and the various different departments can utilize that to glean an understanding of where students are. There's a few other appointments that have a different nature in that, and their independence derives from and is a protection of their student voice so these are not advisory boards, but legally constituted boards of directors. An important one is ASUCLA Board of Directors, another one is Comm Board. Once appointed to those boards, they are legally constituted, they are independent entities in a legal sense, so once they're appointed they have a fiduciary responsibility to those legal entities.

George: I'm interested in what updates you all would like to hear from me every week so if you have any suggestions please let me know.

Dr. Geller: I wanted to welcome Laura and offer my support in learning about the university's policies, or organization structure.

Patti: I wanted to say welcome to Laura and do a quick introduction for her.

### IX. Old Business

- None

## **X. New Business**

### **TSR Bylaw Change\***

**Bravo**

### **CAPS and UCPD**

**Luong**

Emily: Hi everyone, I didn't want to take up too much time but I did want to draw everyone's attention, if you haven't already seen it my mentee Samahang Filipino's Administrative Coordinator and my Assistant Internal Vice President is Cassandra Gattica and she underwent a very traumatizing experience with UCPD when she tried to get a therapy session from CAPS during finals week last quarter. She and I have been working on the op-ed and it was published by the DailyBruin this past week and myself, a couple members of council, and the No UCPD Coalition are working together to launch a campaign about severing mental health from policing. I would appreciate all of council's support in this matter. Thank you everyone.

### **USAC Pandemic Relief Fund**

**Garcia**

Noe: I just wanted to reach out to council for a possible timeline for the application.

USAC Pandemic Relief Application Timeline:

- Release Date: Monday, February 8, 2020 (Week 6)
  - Possible delay to Wednesday, February 10, 2020
- Closing Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2020 (Week 8)
  - Possible delay to Friday, February 26
- Application reading deadline: April 2, 2020 (Week 9- Spring Week 1)
- Spring Quarter Week 2:
  - Req Forms Submitted to SGA: April 9, 2020
  - Recipient Notifications sent

### **A Resolution Condemning the Military Coup in Myanmar and in Support of Burmese Students\***

**Madini**

#### **A Resolution Condemning the Military Coup in Myanmar and in Support of Burmese Students.**

**WHEREAS**, the national elections in Myanmar have concluded and declared the ruling civilian party, the NLD, as the legitimate winners yet the military has refused to accept the outcome; and

**WHEREAS**, the civilian government leaders and affiliated officials were detained by the military on January 31st 2021 for unsubstantiated claims of election fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, the military has declared a state of emergency and installed an interim President from their party for one year, neglecting the democratic will of the Burmese people, and threatening to erase years of hard earned progress in democratic reform that Myanmar has achieved; and

**WHEREAS**, the newly installed military government has removed ministers and deputies from the Burmese government and installed their own loyalists; and

**WHEREAS**, the current political developments in Myanmar carries a painful reminder for the Burmese students who have lived under a brutal military regime for many years and have only began to enjoy the fruits of freedom and democracy since 2011;

**WHEREAS**, the newly installed military government have closed banks and frozen financial transactions, leaving students and their families unable to access funds, and jeopardizing their ability to continue their studies at UCLA; and

**WHEREAS**, the newly installed military government have imposed a communication blackout cutting off internet connection among other means hindering the ability of students back there to view course material, complete assignment, or access information; and

**WHEREAS**, Burmese students face increased stress and anxiety due to the lack of communication with their families back home making their fate unknown; and

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC condemns the military coup in Myanmar and asks UCLA administration to do the same;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the Dean of Students to continue offering support through these difficult times and facilitate the different accommodations Burmese students need with other departments and entities inside UCLA; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the Academic Senate and Departments to provide support and academic accommodation to affected students including but not limited to deadline extensions, workload reduction, and incomplete letter grades; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the Academic Senate to encourage departments to allow affected students flexibility with P/NP grading; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the professors teaching the classes of the affected students to show empathy and patience; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the Register Office to extend deadlines and refrain from placing financial holds caused by the inability of student paying fees due to evolving financial situation; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls on the Emergency Crisis Response Team to provide the necessary support to affected student including financial resources; and

**FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC calls Student Affairs and CAPS to provide priority support to affected students; and

**FINALLY LET IT BE RESOLVED**, the USAC reaffirms its support for Burmese students and asks other entities and departments and entities at UCLA to do so as well.

- Emily motions to approve A Resolution Condemning the Military Coup in Myanmar and in Support of Burmese Students, Bakur seconds
- By motion of 13-0-0 the motion passes, the resolution has been approved

## **XI. Adjournment\***

- Emily adjourns at 9:12pm

Riley

**Good and Welfare**

\* Indicates Action Item

# Indicates Consent Item

@Indicates Executive Session Item